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Claim 20 (amended) A process for coating a metal conductor comprising the steps of applying the coating composition according to claim 13 and curing said coating composition at an elevated temperature.

REMARKS

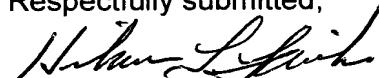
The specification has been amended to include the subheadings.

Claim 13 has been amended to include silicon and zinc as elements of the network. Support for this amendment is on page 3, line 4 of the specification.

Support for the amendment to claim 20 is on page 10, line 7.

If the examiner wishes to discuss the application or the above amendment, Applicants' attorney can be reached at the phone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version of Claims with Markings Showing Changes Made

In the claim shown below, all additions made to the claims are underlined. There were no deletions in the claims.

Claim 13. (amended) A coating composition for electrical conductors, comprising:

A) 1-60 wt.% of at least one reactive particle, said reactive particles having an average radius ranging from 1nm to 300nm, wherein said reactive particles are based on an element-oxygen network, and wherein the elements are selected from the group consisting of silicon, zinc, aluminum, tin, boron, germanium, gallium, lead, the transition metals, the lanthanides and actinides;

(B) 0-90 wt.% of at least one conventional binder; and

(C) 0-95 wt.% of at least one conventional additive, solvent, pigment and/or filler;

wherein the element-oxygen network of said reactive particles has at least one reactive function R₁ and optionally at least one non-reactive and/or at least one partially reactive functions R₂ and R₃ bound by way of an oxygen of the element oxygen-network to the surface of said reactive particles, the reactive function R₁ being contained in an amount up to 98 wt.% of said reactive particles and the non-reactive and/or partially reactive functions R₂ and R₃ being contained in an amount from 0-97 wt.% of said reactive particles;

wherein R₁ comprises radicals selected from the group consisting of metal acid esters, NCO, urethane groups, epoxide groups, epoxy, carboxylic acid anhydride, C=C double bond systems, OH, alcohols bound by way of oxygen, alcohols bound by way of esters, alcohols bound by way of ethers, chelating agents, COOH, NH₂, NHR4, and reactive resin components;

wherein R₂ comprises radicals selected from the group consisting of aromatic compounds, aliphatic compounds, fatty acid derivatives, esters, and ethers;

wherein R₃ comprises resin radicals;

wherein R₄ comprises radicals selected from the group consisting of acrylate, phenol, melamine, polyurethane, polyester, polyester imide, polysulfide, epoxide, polyamide, polyvinyl formal resins, aromatic compounds, aliphatic compounds, esters, ethers, alcoholates, fats, and chelating agents.

Claim 20 (amended) A process for coating a metal conductor comprising the steps of applying the coating composition according to claim 13 and curing said coating composition at an elevated temperature.